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The Daily Beat provides daily updates, announcements and articles relevant to Indian Country in Montana. Current and archived issues can be found on the <u>State-Tribal Economic Development Commission</u> website. Questions? Email Billie Rusek @ <u>brusek@mt.gov</u> or Heather Sobrepeña-George at <u>hsobrepena@mt.gov</u>

MONTANA TRIBAL NEWS:

DESPITE DECLINE, METH USE AMONG INDIAN STUDENTS STILL HIGH

By JENNIFER McKEE - IR State Bureau (2/08/07)

Montana's American Indian high school students report using the drug methamphetamine at more than twice the rate reported by all Montana students.

MISSIONARY KILLED IN COLO. WORKED ON CROW RESERVATION

By LUELLA N. BRIEN, Billings Gazette (2/11/07)

BILLINGS — Philip Crouse left a lasting impression wherever he went.

As a teen Crouse used drugs and drank; he was angry. He was even a skinhead, but after finding Christianity, he existed with the heart of a missionary.

Last summer he came to the Crow Reservation to help build a new home for Dana and Keith Bartlett and their eight foster children. Crouse left a lasting impression there, too.

ROCKY BOY'S SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS ENROLLMENT PROBLEMS IT LIKES

By KIM SKORNOGOSKI Great Falls Tribune (12/11/07)

ROCKY BOY'S RESERVATION — While neighboring schools compete to recruit large families and watch their enrollment slide with despair, schools on the Rocky Boy's Reservation have the luxury of not worrying about student numbers and the dollars tied to them.

TRIBAL, BUSINESS LEADERS FOCUS ON REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

By Great Falls Trubine Staff (12/11/07)

Regional Indian tribal leaders will meet with Great Falls business leaders Thursday and Friday to talk about economic development.

The two-day regional economic development event is called "Leaders at the River." The event is sponsored by the Great Falls Development Authority, the Fort Belknap Planning and Development Corp. and War Shield Development Corp. of Great Falls, a nonprofit community development group seeking to improve social and economic conditions for Native Americans.

LOCAL CHEYENNE TRIBAL MEMBER TO PUT MONTANA ON THE ActionCOACH MAP

December 12, 2007 - Carol Boettger, ActionCOACH Master Licensee, has named Rodney Trahan as the newest ActionCOACH in Montana.

"Rodney is the first Native American ActionCOACH," Boettger said. "Rodney is going to put Montana on the ActionCOACH map."

Trahan is a Northern Cheyenne tribal member who has always been passionate about his involvement in the tribal community. Most recently, Trahan was the Director of Planned Giving in the fundraising department for St. Labre Indian School in Montana...

ST. LABRE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS SERVE THE COMMUNITY

by: Staff Reports / Indian Country Today© (12/06/07)

ASHLAND, Mont. - St. Labre Indian High School students left their books in their lockers on the day before Thanksgiving and rolled up their sleeves. As part of a pre-holiday service day, 16 teams of high school students performed a variety of service projects on campus and in the community Nov. 21.

MARKETPLACE INSIGHTS

by: Lucinda Hughes-Juan Indian Country Today© December 11, 2007

Who's tending the fire? Valuing the role of all workers in Native organizations

Who's performing the menial tasks in your business or organization? Well, this is a trick question because there is no such thing as a menial task in a productive organization. Every task, every job and every responsibility has purpose and should be considered important to an organization's existence. In an effective organization, operations are highly dependent on one another. Every person is valued for their contributing role. This is especially true for most Native communities and organizations as a result of their cultural dynamics.

FAIR CONTRACTING, INDIAN SELF-RELIANCE BOTH POSSIBLE

by: Editors Report / Indian Country Today© (12/07/07)

Not all tribes are equally positioned to benefit from gaming compacts. Perhaps only about 30 gaming tribes generate significant income from their gaming operations; the rest of Indian country, more than 500 recognized communities, enjoys only modest gaming revenue. Tribes located near large urban populations benefit most, while geographically isolated tribal communities are less able to generate gaming revenue and thus continue to encounter high rates of unemployment, poverty and government dependence. Having lost much of their land, their most useful economic asset, these more isolated tribes must find other means to enter the American market economy.

Like tribes with more lucrative gaming operations, they want to enter the U.S. economy on their own terms as governments that preserve their cultures and communities.

SENATOR WANTS INPUT FROM TRIBES ON LAW ENFORCEMENT LEGISLATION

by: David Melmer / Indian Country Today© (11/30/07)

DENVER - The National Congress of American Indians' annual convention in November became the forum to discuss one of the most problematic issues of Indian country - law enforcement.

Insufficient funding results in a lack of adequate law enforcement officers, poor jail facilities and overworked courts. Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, has produced a concept paper of ideas that were collected from input by tribal leaders with the intent of writing legislation that could change law enforcement in Indian country.

GRANTS/OPPORTUNITIES:

OFFICE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders

Current Closing Date for Applications: Jan 23, 2008
Funding Opportunity Number: OVW-2008-1731
Award Ceiling: \$1,500,000
Award Floor: \$0
CFDA Number: 16.590 ---

The Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program (hereinafter referred to as the Arrest Program) recognizes that domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking are crimes that require the criminal justice system to hold offenders accountable for their actions through investigation, arrest, and prosecution of violent offenders, and through close judicial scrutiny and management of offender behavior. At each juncture in the criminal justice process, concerns for victim safety should guide the actions of all partners in the system. Criminal justice agencies must collaborate among themselves and in meaningful partnership with nonprofit, nongovernmental sexual assault and domestic violence programs, including local shelters, rape crisis centers, victim service organizations and domestic violence coalitions, to ensure that victim safety is a paramount consideration in the development of any strategy to address these crimes. Additionally, representatives from criminal justice agencies working to prevent and reduce domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and

stalking must have a clear understanding of the roles of governmental and nongovernmental victim assistance programs. This discretionary grant program is designed to encourage state, local, and tribal governments and state, local, and tribal courts to treat domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking as serious violations of criminal law requiring the coordinated involvement of the entire criminal justice system. This program challenges the entire community to listen, communicate, identify problems, and share ideas that will result in new responses to ensure victim safety and offender accountability.